

**S. 1965, Planning for Aging Veterans Act of 2021**

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs on July 28, 2021

| By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars  | 2022 | 2022-2026                           | 2022-2031     |
|--|------|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Direct Spending (Outlays)  | 0    | 0                                   | 0             |
| Revenues   | 0    | 0                                   | 0             |
| Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit  | 0    | 0                                   | 0             |
| Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)  | *    | 5                                   | not estimated |
| Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?  | No   | <b>Mandate Effects</b>              |               |
| Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2032? | No   | Contains intergovernmental mandate? | No            |
|  |      | Contains private-sector mandate?    | No            |
| * = between zero and \$500,000.  |      |                                     |               |

S. 1965 would require the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to carry out a two-year pilot program to provide geriatric psychiatry services to veterans at state-operated facilities that provide nursing home, domiciliary, and adult day care to veterans. Using information from VA, CBO estimates that the program would assist up to 600 veterans in each year at an average annual cost of \$2,400 per veteran. In total, implementing the pilot program would cost \$3 million over the 2022-2026 period.

The bill also would require VA to monitor contractors who conduct inspections of state veterans' homes on a quarterly basis, report deficiencies to the Secretary, and publish results of those inspections. The department meets the inspection oversight and reporting requirements under current law. Using costs for similar information technology and website management requirements, CBO estimates that publishing inspection reports would cost less than \$500,000 each year and total \$2 million over the 2022-2026 period.

Finally, the bill would require VA to coordinate with public housing authorities and local organizations to address the current and future needs for medical care and services of aging veterans who are homeless. VA would have to provide a report about that strategy to the Congress. CBO estimates that satisfying that requirement would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2022-2026 period.



In total, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$5 million over the 2022-2026 period. Such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget function 700 (veterans benefits and services).

**Table 1.  
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under S. 1965**

|                         | By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars |      |      |      |      | 2022-2026 |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|-----------|
|                         | 2022                                | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |           |
| Pilot Program           |                                     |      |      |      |      |           |
| Estimated Authorization | 0                                   | 1    | 2    | 0    | 0    | 3         |
| Estimated Outlays       | 0                                   | 1    | 2    | 0    | 0    | 3         |
| State Home Oversight    |                                     |      |      |      |      |           |
| Estimated Authorization | *                                   | *    | *    | *    | *    | 2         |
| Estimated Outlays       | *                                   | *    | *    | *    | *    | 2         |
| Total Changes           |                                     |      |      |      |      |           |
| Estimated Authorization | *                                   | 1    | 2    | *    | *    | 5         |
| Estimated Outlays       | *                                   | 1    | 2    | *    | *    | 5         |

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding. \* = between zero and \$500,000.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Etaf Khan. The estimate was reviewed by Leo Lex, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.